

RENTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

January 5, 1998 Council Chambers
Monday, 7:30 p.m. Municipal Building

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro tem Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS

BOB EDWARDS, Council President; TONI NELSON; KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER; DAN CLAWSON; KING PARKER; TIMOTHY SCHLITZER; RANDY CORMAN.

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

JAY COVINGTON, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; ZANETTA FONTES, Assistant City Attorney; MARILYN PETERSEN, City Clerk; GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator; SUSAN CARLSON, Economic Development, Neighborhoods & Strategic Planning Administrator; BETTY NOKES, Economic Development Director; MICHAEL KATTERMANN, Director of Neighborhoods & Strategic Planning; TERRY HIGASHIYAMA, Recreation Director; LEE HARO, Transportation Planning Supervisor; KIM BECKLUND, Program Development Coordinator; CORINNA D. HARN, Municipal Court Judge; DEPUTY CHIEF DON PERSSON, Police Department.

PRESS

Denis Law, *Renton Reporter*

INSTALLATION OF COUNCILMEMBERS AND MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

Council President Pro tem Parker noted the presence of King County Councilman Dwight Pelz, in attendance to witness tonight's swearing-in of elected Renton officials.

City Clerk Marilyn J. Petersen administered the oath of office to Councilmen Randy Corman, Position No. 1, Bob Edwards, Position No. 2, and Timothy J. Schlitzer, Position No. 6, each of whom was re-elected in November, 1997 to a four-year term to expire December 31, 2001.

City Clerk Petersen also administered the oath of office to Municipal Court Judge Corinna D. Harn, who was elected in November, 1997 to serve the remaining portion of an unexpired term to the end of 1997, as well as to a standard four-year term expiring December 31, 2001.

RECESS

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CORMAN,
COUNCIL RECESS FOR 10 MINUTES. CARRIED.
Time: 7:38 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:50 p.m.; roll was called; all Councilmembers present.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER,
COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER

15, 1997, AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

**SPECIAL
PRESENTATIONS**
1997 Council President
Recognition

Council President Bob Edwards presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Councilmember Kathy Keolker-Wheeler for her outstanding service as Council President in 1997. Mr. Edwards personally thanked Ms. Keolker-Wheeler for having done a tremendous job last year.

Transportation Sidewalk
Program Briefing

Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator Gregg Zimmerman explained the City's policies, standards, and funding programs relating to sidewalks. He noted that although many residents place great importance in these facilities, particularly in residential areas and along school routes, the City has not been able to satisfy many of the sidewalk requests it receives due to current budgetary and manpower restraints.

Mr. Zimmerman explained the standards contained in Renton's City Code regarding construction of new sidewalks. Because not all developments in the City were built to current standards, however, some areas have no sidewalks, some have narrow sidewalks or sidewalks on only one side of the street, and other sidewalks are in need of repair. He added that condition of sidewalks throughout Renton varies depending on age, location, and the effect of street trees. Some older street trees have shallow root systems, resulting in sidewalk cracks and upheaval.

Mr. Zimmerman said while the City cannot provide every area with sidewalks, or even bring all existing sidewalks up to current development standards, it does have a series of programs to install sidewalks in certain key locations (such as along school routes). These programs include the Walkway Program, the Sidewalk Inspection and Replacement Program, and the Missing Links Program. Renton also has a few modest sidewalk repair and restoration programs, as follows: the Sidewalk Repair Program, the Complaint/Claims Response Program, and the Central Business District Tree Program.

Citizens wishing to make improvements not within the scope or ability of these programs could form a Local Improvement District (LID) to accomplish the desired construction and/or repairs. Under this option, the improvements would be designed and installed by the City with the benefiting residents paying for the costs annually over a ten-year period.

Regarding liability issues, Mr. Zimmerman said both State law and Renton City Code make the adjacent property owner liable for any injury or damage caused to persons or property due to the dangerous or defective condition of a sidewalk. The responsibility also belongs to the property owner to maintain and repair any adjacent sidewalks.

The Administration is formulating options for consideration by the Council to address the increasing demands for sidewalks and their repair. Specifically, staff will: review the current Sidewalk Program to identify possible improvements or changes; assess the priority of the Sidewalk Program in the context of all transportation-related projects; and study programs offered by other cities to learn how they are addressing these types of needs for their residents.

Mr. Zimmerman concluded that staff is preparing a brochure for citizens explaining the City's current sidewalk program. It will be available early this year.

Councilman Schlitzer shared the concern of a wheelchair-bound constituent who cannot access a nearby grocery store from his residence at the southwest corner of NE 4th and Union. Mr. Schlitzer added that another resident called to report shrubbery intruding into the pedestrian walkway in the 2000 block of Edmonds Ave. NE. Mr. Zimmerman replied that citizens should notify the City's maintenance division of these types of situations. Executive Assistant Covington added that the City will inform the Edmonds Ave. property owner of his or her obligation to keep the sidewalk clear of shrubbery or other obstructions.

Responding to questions raised by Councilman Clawson regarding how citizens can form Local Improvement Districts (LIDs), Councilman Corman agreed that citizens should be able to easily estimate the cost of various improvements before pursuing an LID.

Councilmember Nelson asked whether the City would be liable should someone get hurt from a sidewalk that was damaged by a City-installed street tree. Mr. Zimmerman agreed that this issue is not clear, because of the responsibility placed on the adjacent property owner by both State law and City Code.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Executive Assistant Jay Covington reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City's recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 1997 and beyond. Items noted included:

- * The Washington State Surveying and Rating Bureau issued Renton an impressive Classification #3 for Building Code Effectiveness. The classification is used to establish property insurance ratings and for underwriting information.
- * Participants and staff of the Renton Senior Activity Center collected over 100 toys for the Salvation Army's Toys for Tots toy drive to benefit low-income children from the Renton area.
- * The construction drawings and specifications for the tenant improvement phase of the new City Hall were released on December 30th for public bidding on January 21st.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the listing.

Appointment Planning Commission

Mayor Tanner reappointed Beverly Franklin, PO Box 685, Renton, 98057, and Jeffrey Lukins, 1113 S. 23rd St., Renton, 98055, to the Planning Commission for three-year terms expiring 1/31/2001. Council concur.

CAG 97-105, ADA Upgrades to Various Facilities, Buchanan General Construction

Community Services Department submitted CAG-97-105, ADA Upgrades to the Renton Senior Activity Center, Carco Theatre, Renton Community Center and Renton Historical Museum; and requested approval of the project, authorization for final pay estimate in the amount of \$22,768.61, commencement of 60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of \$2,197.74 to Buchanan General Construction Co., contractor, if all required

releases are obtained. Council concur.

CRT 97-014, Hirschfeld v
Renton

Court Case filed in King County Superior Court on 12/10/97 by Tracy R. Antley-Olander on behalf of Marianne Hirschfeld, claiming that damages in an undetermined amount were incurred on 1/14/96 when Ms. Hirschfeld's car struck a manhole cover in an alley between Burnett & Williams Avenues N. (200 block), allegedly due to improper placement of asphalt around the cover. Refer to City Attorney and Insurance Services.

Development Services
Construction Mitigation
Measures (Formerly SEPA)

Development Services Division proposed codifying construction mitigation measures that are typically imposed on land use projects through the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) to provide a more efficient and consistent level of project review. Refer to Planning & Development Committee; set a public hearing on January 26, 1998 to take testimony on the proposed changes.

Fire Aid Unit and Pumper
Truck Purchase

Fire Department requested authorization to purchase one aid unit and one pumper truck, the total cost of both not to exceed \$400,000, including tax and associated equipment. Refer to Public Safety Committee.

HR&RM Engineering
Specialist Classification
Series Amendment

Human Resources & Risk Management Department recommended approval of City Policy & Procedure 300-60, as amended to add an Engineering Specialist I to the classification series for Engineering Specialist. Refer to Finance Committee.

HR&RM Reclassifications
& New Positions

Human Resources & Risk Management Department recommended the reclassification of eight positions and the addition of three new positions (Public Works Maintenance Manager, Economic Development Specialist and Network Systems Supervisor) at a total 1998 cost of \$107,431. Refer to Finance Committee.

Public Works Springbrook
Creek Drainage Easement,
The Boeing Company

Surface Water Utility Division requested acceptance of a drainage easement dedication from The Boeing Company for the widening of Springbrook Creek; in exchange, Renton will offset 100% (\$10,379.85) of the Surface Water Utility system development charge for Boeing's proposed Family Center project. Refer to Utilities Committee.

Transportation East Valley
Road Rehabilitation,
WSDOT Grant, CAG-98-

Transportation Systems Division submitted proposed agreement accepting \$175,918 in grant funding from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for the East Valley Road rehabilitation project (SW 41st to 43rd Streets). Renton's cost share is \$27,455. Refer to Transportation Committee.

CAG 97-119, Highlands
Elevated Reservoir Exterior
Coating, Jones Painting

Water Utility Division submitted CAG-97-119, Highlands Elevated Reservoir Exterior Coating project; and requested approval of the project, authorization for final pay estimate in the amount of \$825.36, commencement of 60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of \$4,185.45 to

Jones Painting, Inc., contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS
Community Services
Committee

Appointment Board of Adjustment

1997 Community Services Committee Chair Nelson presented a report recommending concurrence in the Mayor's appointment of Jay S. Wallace to the Board of Adjustment to complete the unexpired term of Ellery K. Brown, Jr., who resigned. The term expires September 6, 1999. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY PARKER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Finance Committee
Finance Vouchers

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claims Vouchers #154113 - 154575; two wire transfers in the total amount of \$2,045,442.63; approval of Payroll Vouchers #157156 - 157432; and 493 direct deposits in the total amount of \$1,191,971.36. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Finance Vouchers

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claims Vouchers #154576 - 154605; one wire transfer in the amount of \$931,720.10; approval of Payroll Vouchers #157433 - 157677; and 491 direct deposits in the total amount of \$1,216,148.96. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Parks New City Hall
Construction Permit Fee
Waiver

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending that the permit fees associated with the construction and related activities at the new Renton City Hall, located at South Main and Grady Way, be waived. The total of these fees is estimated to be approximately \$45,000.00. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR 45 MINUTES TO DISCUSS LITIGATION. Time: 8:48 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:35 p.m.; roll was called; all Councilmembers present.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 9:36 p.m.

MARILYN J. PETERSEN, CMC, City Clerk

Recorder: Brenda Fritsvold
1/05/98